

THE RICHMOND CLIMAX.

37th YEAR

RICHMOND, MADISON COUNTY, KENTUCKY, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, 1911

NUMBER 52

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RICHMOND

A Brand New Constitution

For Kentucky, is the Opinion of
Prominent Member of the Tax
Reform Committee.

Vital Question For Kentuckians.

That a pressing need in Kentucky at present is a brand-new constitution is the belief expressed by Peyton N. Clarke, member of the Tax Reform Committee. He asserts that Kentucky's progress during the last decade has been hampered and retarded by an effete and time-worn instrument, that should be supplanted. Incidentally, he sees the possibility, in the proposed new constitution, of opening the way to needed tax reforms, probably the most vital question being considered by Kentuckians.

Mr. Clarke has been pledged co-operation from many sections of the State in furthering his proposal for a new constitution. It is pointed out that ample time remains to the people of the commonwealth, before the meeting of the next General Assembly, to urge upon their representatives in the Legislature the importance of a new constitution.

In his proposal for a new constitution Mr. Clarke says: "We have a grand old State and point with pride to the achievements of our citizens in other States. We cannot hide our shortcomings from outsiders, nor should we affect to delude ourselves.

"The indifferent showing by the State of Kentucky in the recent census has been attributed to faults in our laws, which, it is maintained, are too stringent in some respects, too restrictive in others and on the whole illiberal and repellent.

"While the constitution of most of the States leave the enactment of general laws to the Legislature the pres-

ent constitution of Kentucky is an not above the powers of ordinary legislation, and many of its provisions being prospective therein lies the chief obstacle to our growth and prosperity.

"Kentucky has had four successive constitutions since its erection into an independent State in 1792.

"Unfortunately for Kentucky, the last constitution was framed about the time the great wave of Populism swept over the land, in the early nineties, and left its impression on the work of the convention, and the striking conflict then being waged between capital and labor, wealth and industry, and city and country, had much to do with the radical and revolutionary principles incorporated in the document adopted under these blighting influences.

"As an example of the effects it is sufficient to note particularly the change in the law relating to revenue and taxation.

"In all the former constitutions this important subject was left entirely to the Legislature, for the good and sufficient reason that it was thought highly improper for a self-governed people to tie their hands by an act above the powers of ordinary legislation, to change, even if the conditions required it; but the framers of the present constitution arbitrarily pursued a different policy and incorporated in it practically a new and untried system of revenue and taxation, thereby taking the power from the Legislature and fixing an immutable law, regardless of its consequence and in spite of the experience of other States.

"Two ways are open to secure a change in our present laws, the first by amending the constitution, the second by a complete revision. Both methods are cumbersome and tedious.

"If a bill should be introduced in the next General Assembly, which meets in 1912, and it should be favorably received, it will have to lie over until the following session in 1914, and it occurred in at that time the question will then have to go before and be voted on by the people, and if

approved by them the General Assembly of 1916 will have the power to call a Constitutional Convention to meet the following year, and it will be 1918 before the statutory enactment could go into effect.

"Why have 600,000 Kentuckians sought homes in other States? Why do our farms produce less than the faraway lands of other States? Why have such evidence of wealth as stocks and bonds and mortgages and notes practically disappeared from our tax returns? Why is our State so far behind in education? Why are so many of our counties without railroads or any other improved roadway? Why do our cities languish and one-third of our counties show a falling off in population?

"The answer is not far to seek. It is because our constitution is defective and insufficient. It is because our resources are undeveloped. It is because there is inadequate employment for our young men and women, who drift away and drain the State of its best resource, its brains and brawn.

"Happily for us that when we find our constitution defective and insufficient to secure the happiness of our people we can assemble with all the coolness of philosophers and set them to rights," wrote Thomas Jefferson a century ago, and the words are not only encouraging to us today, but the suggestion is worth the most serious consideration of all who have the welfare of Kentucky at heart and who would like to see the grand old commonwealth classed among the best of the States and behind none in education, wealth and happiness."

Farm News

Items of Interest to The Farmer, the Grower and the Stockman.

Richard Garlach, a glassing farmer, residing near Danville, Ky., sold his crop to a New York firm at a fraction over \$6 per pound. Some of the single roots brought \$2 each. He sold a patch, 25 feet square for \$12.

The heavy rains of last Wednesday and Thursday brought a fairly good tobacco season and the growers took advantage of the situation and set out many hundred acres in Madison county. By a close observation experts say that there will be but very little difference in the acreage this year from last.

J. D. Eads and Sons, of Lincoln county, have bought within the last three weeks, about 60,000 pounds of wool in Lincoln, Boyle, Garrard, Casey and Rockcastle counties. S. H. Baughman of the Stanford vicinity, effected the largest individual sale to Messrs. Eads, his wool clip amounting to about

1,500 pounds.

Mr. Elmer Deatherage, claims that the quality of Bluegrass this season is not so good as last, but the yield is a little more. He has purchased a big lot of the seed at 70 cents.

John Rymal is constructing a large combination barn for Mr. Samuel Royce on his farm near Boonesboro.

There will not be many lambs leave Madison county during June, for the reason that they are not yet ready for the market. A few have been shipped the past ten days, purchased from 5 to 5 1-2. William Wagers shipped one load last week to Cincinnati, double decked.

The following average price for stock in this State at present according to the Commissioner of Agriculture is: "The average price for horses throughout the State is \$139.40, or in the First district \$142.76; Second, \$38; Third, \$123; Fourth, \$132.25; Fifth, \$121.

"The average price paid for mules throughout the State is \$150.97, or in the First district, \$158.55; Second, \$149; Third, \$139; Fourth, \$158.50; Fifth, \$139.

"The price paid for beef cattle in the State is an average of 4.22 cents per pound.

"The price paid for hogs per pound in the State is an average of 5.75 cents per pound.

"The average price paid for sheep per pound throughout the State is 4.08 cents per pound.

Mr. Merchant

July 1st will soon be here. You will want to collect your outstanding accounts. Have you got the necessary stationery, letter heads, bill heads, envelopes etc? Look up your stock and send us your orders.

Climax Printing Co.

It is worse than useless to take any medicines internally for muscular or chronic rheumatism. All that is needed is a free application of Chamberlain's Liniment. Sale by Stockton & Son.

Dan Breck, fire, lightning, cyclone and live stock insurance.

Now is the time of year to feed your fowls a good tonic. R-4-11-44 cures Cholera, Koup, Gapes, Canker and Limberneck. When fed as a preventative it not only keeps them healthy, but makes them lay. Price 50c-No Cure, No Pay. Guaranteed by your druggists, Stockton & Son.

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